GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3231
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Issuance of Soil Health Card
Sonkar Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the norms fixed for issuing Soil Health Card;

(b) the details of the facilities given by the Government to the Soil Health Card holders;

(c) whether several institutions/NGOs have been nominated by the Government for issuing Soil Health Card; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of such centres opened and being run in various States including Uttar Pradesh so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): The Government has introduced Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme with the aim to provide Soil Health Cards to all 14 crore land holdings across the country once in a cycle of 2 years. Soil Health Cards provide farmers with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for cultivation of various crops along with soil amendments. Nationally agreed norms / standards of 10 hectares for rainfed areas and 2.5 hectares for irrigated areas will be the grid for soil sample collection. A total of around 2.53 crore soil samples will be collected and tested to generate 14 crore soil health cards for its distribution to individual farm land holdings.

(c) & (d): Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India has signed an MoU on 8th November, 2016 with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (CSC SPV) for printing of Soil Health Cards and registration of soil samples collected by the State Agriculture Offices through the Common Services Centers (CSCs).

All the States including Uttar Pradesh have been requested to consider tie ups with CSC SPV for registration of samples and printing of Soil Health Cards.

A few States like Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Assam have initiated steps to enter into collaboration with CSC SPV.

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